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Rowing Clubs Would Like To Move Sites

The "waterfront dream" plan unveiled yesterday for San Francisco will necessitate moving the city's three old-established rowing clubs if the project becomes a reality.

The Dolphin, South End and San Francisco rowing clubs' quarters presently are located in the area of the foot of Hyde and Jefferson streets, in the path of the Ferry Building to Aquatic Park waterfront "Embarcadero City."

Unofficial spokesmen for two of the clubs, Dolphin and South End, said a move would be welcome if the various clubs' headquarters could be relocated at Van Ness avenue in front of the fire department pumping station and alongside the present location of the Sea Scouts pier.

LONG DESIRED

Dolphin has long desired such a move and has already requested that location, a club member said. Present locations have been called "not the best."

"We could operate from a float on Van Ness or on a fill at the rear end of the building on the water edge with an incline down to a float. Then we'd be able to rise and fall with the tide," he said.

Any idea that Lake Merced might be the clubs' new site was ruled out. "It's not adequate for our purposes since swimming is not allowed and furthermore our buildings have been part of the city's tradition since 1877. Pleasure boats could not move to the lake since it would encroach on concessionaire."

ROOM FOR ALL

A South End member in favor of a Van Ness avenue move said, "There is 250 feet of room between the Sea Scouts and the breakwater start, plenty of room for all three clubs if the city would move us.

"Lake Merced has too many sheds now for sailing, fishing, cyclists, Sea Scouts instruction and cross-country runners.

"There'd be an awful uproar among the rowing clubs if we were asked to move out to the lake."